DEF 12-5 JORDAN

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

SECRET

Action NEA

Info SS G SP L EUR NSC INR CIA NSA DOD AID E COM FAA TRSY XMB RSR

VRUTWQMA862 KGA255
PP
PP RUEHCR
DE RUQMKG 266A 25/1255Z
P R 251250Z ZEA
FM (AMEMBASSY AMMAN)
TO RUEHCR/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 899
INFO RUFHDN/AMEMBASSY LONDON 43
RUFHPA/AMEMBASSY PARIS 49
STATE GRNC

23384
1985 JUN 25 AM 9 45
152

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CRC/MR
REVIEWED BY [redacted] DATE [redacted]
EO AUTH [redacted] REASON(S) [redacted]
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS [redacted]
DECLASSIFIED/RELEASABLE
RELEASE DENIED [redacted]
PA OR FOR EXEMPTION [redacted]

BT
S E C R E T JUNE 25

REF: EMBTEL 700*

SUPERSONICS FOR JORDAN

[redacted] STATED THAT GOJ CONVINCED REASONS FOR FRENCH TURNDOWN OF JORDAN'S REQUEST FOR MIRAGES UNTRUE. [redacted] SAID THAT WHEN FRENCH AMBASSADOR DELIVERED REPLY HE [redacted] HAD ASKED WHETHER IT NOT TRUE THAT FRENCH WERE PREPARED TO PROVIDE LEBANON AND SAUDI ARABIA WITH MIRAGES. AMBASSADOR REPLIED AFFIRMATIVELY BUT STATED THAT REQUESTS OF BOTH THESE COUNTRIES PREDATED JORDAN'S [redacted] GOJ UNDER-

PAGE 2 RUQMKG 266A S E C R E T
STOOD LEBANESE REQUEST WAS MADE DURING PRESIDENT HELU'S VISIT TO FRANCE, WHICH WAS SOME WEEKS AFTER [redacted] TALKED TO FRENCH [redacted] STATED THAT SAUDI DEAL HAD NOT BEEN CONSUMMATED [redacted] INITIATIVE FOR THIS SALE WAS AS MUCH FROM FRENCH AS [redacted] WAS FROM SAUDIS. THUS THERE WAS NO IRREVOKABLE FRENCH COMMITMENT.

IN VIEW OF THESE FACTS [redacted] HAD QUESTIONED FRENCH DISCRIMINATION AGAINST JORDAN. HE FURTHER POINTED OUT TO FRENCH AMBASSADOR THAT FRENCH SHOULD BE AS INTERESTED AS US AND UK IN KEEPING MIGS OUT OF JORDAN. SINCE FRENCH WERE ALREADY MAJOR SUPPLIERS OF MILITARY AIRCRAFT TO ISRAEL, THEY WOULD NOT FACE SAME PRESSURES FROM ISRAEL AS WOULD US AND UK BY SUPPLYING JORDAN. THESE ARGUMENTS WERE TO NO AVAIL [redacted] STATED THAT HE LATER TOLD KING THAT FRENCH EXCUSE FOR REFUSING TO SUPPLY AIRCRAFT WAS OBVIOUS LIE.

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-2-800, June 25, from: Amman

[redacted] EMBOFF THAT [redacted] KING ABSOLVED US FOR
COMPLICITY IN FRENCH TURNDOWN SINCE [redacted] AWARE THAT SENIOR
STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS HAD INTERCEDED WITH FRENCH FOREIGN
MINISTRY TO GIVE JORDAN FAVORABLE REPLY. NEVERTHELESS, DELAY
INCURRED BY THIS EXERCISE WITH FRENCH LEFT VERY LITTLE TIME

PAGE 3 RUQMKG 266A S E C R E T
BEFORE SEPTEMBER SUMMIT CONFERENCE TO RESOLVE SUPERSONIC ISSUE.
[redacted] THAT GOJ HAD EXHAUSTED ALL ITS EXCUSES AND,
IF KING DID NOT HAVE ANSWER IN HAND BY NEXT SUMMIT, HE WOULD BE
FORCED TO ACCEPT A UAC SOLUTION.

[redacted] GOJ NEGOTIATIONS WITH FRANCE HAD
BEEN UNDERTAKEN AT USG REQUEST BUT AT MEDIUM LEVEL ON ASSUMPTION
THAT US WOULD USE ITS INFLUENCE TO SUPPORT JORDAN. FLAT TURNDOWN
CAME AS SOMETHING OF SURPRISE. DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN KING
HUSSEIN AND PRES DE GAULLE MIGHT HAVE RESULTED IN MORE FAVORABLE
ANSWER BUT IT WAS ASSUMED THAT SUCH HIGH-LEVEL APPROACH NOT
NECESSARY. KING HAD CONSIDERED APPROACH TO DE GAULLE DURING HIS
PRESENT VISIT TO
FRANCE BUT WAS UNWILLING TO COMMIT HIS PRESTIGE
UNLESS USG WILLING TO SUPPORT HIM DIPLOMATICALLY AND FINANCIALLY
TO INSURE CONSUMMATION OF SALE. GP-3. BARNES
BT

[redacted]

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